/156 cont./

802 after the other, from the little finger to the thumb, into the palm of the hand. While one then further counts in like manner on the fingers of the left hand, those of the right one remain closed and only its thumb is moved freely. After turning down the thumb of the left hand, the one counting raises both hands, now closed into fists, and says: tomon (= 10). For counting further, one begins anew in the same way and does not continue, say, on the toes.

• [801] [171] The Masai count neither human beings nor cattle. It is believed, as the Israelites also did, according to 1st Chron. 21, that the ones counted would die. Thus, they correctly estimate larger multitudes of living creatures in round numbers, and small ones with quite great certainty. Only dead persons, for example, the fallen warriors, are counted individually.

192 826 [754] The names of the fingers might be mentioned here: thumb = ol moruo kitok, that is, the big old one. Index finger = os sogutíhoi or ol osokutoni, that is, the sorcerer; if one wants to make someone ill through sorcery, one spreads the magic medicine under the nail of the index finger and, murmuring a curse, one points with it at the person concerned. Middle finger = ol gerĕti, that is, actually the strip of skin worn ringlike on the middle finger. Fourth finger = ŋgoto eŋ genenja, that is, mother of the little finger, which is called eŋ ginjenje or also eŋg ilinda.

802 Ordinals: ol oiturŭgu = the first /masc./, ol iaré = the second /masc./, ol ioguni = the third /masc./; eŋ aiturŭgu = the first /fem./, eŋ iaré = the second /fem./, eŋ ĕuni = the third /fem./. The /masc./ (the /fem./) (general), ol (eŋ) abaye; the last in the meaning of the rearmost is called ol abaye ta gorom; the one standing on the right end of a row (to the right of the one judging) is called ol abaye t' eŋ gaina ertatenne (eŋ gaina = the hand, ertatenne = on the right). the one standing on the other end, ol abaye t' eŋ gaina ekediĕnje (ekediĕnje = on the left).

Once is called nabo katá (or nabo gadá); twice, kat' aré; three times, kat' uni, etc.